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The Truth Behind H.R. 4167

“What we are going to see today are a lot of half-truths,
or no truths at all or not even getting close to
what this bill really does.”

March 6, 2006

Dear Colleague:

Last Thursday, the House took up H.R. 4167 – legislation to radically weaken the nation’s food safety system.

During the floor debate, a proponent of the legislation predicted that the debate would contain “a lot of half-truths, or no truths at all or not even getting close to what this bill really does.” And sure enough it did.

Confusion about the bill is understandable. As you know, during the almost 8 years that this legislation has been pending, there has never been a single hearing in either the House or the Senate. However, since the House is expected to take up the legislation again this week and consider important amendments, it is important that we try to clear up some of the confusion as well as the purposeful misinformation that has been distributed.

To try and clarify the effects of H.R. 4167, over the next few days, I will be circulating fact sheets that explain some of the half-truths and un-truths about the bill. The first fact sheet discusses misinformation you may have heard regarding scope of this legislation. I hope you find it useful.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress